

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A process for reducing the content of ethyl 3-dimethylamino -2-phenylpropionate in a solution contaminated therewith, of ethyl 2-dimethylamino-1-phenyl-3-cyclohexene-1-carboxylate in a water immiscible solvent, which comprises adding from 0.75 0.5 to 2.0 equivalents of a carboxylic acid per mole of ethyl 2-dimethylamino-1-phenyl-3-cyclohexene-1-carboxylate to this solution, and stirring this mixture ~~at a temperature of from 50°C to 100°C~~ for 0.5 to 2 hours at a temperature of from 50°C to 100°C, ~~wherein the content of 3-dimethylamino-phenyl-propionic acid-ethylester is below 0.10%~~.
2. (new) The process of claim wherein the resultant content of 3-dimethylamino-phenyl-propionic acid-ethylester is below 0.10%.